

City in fear after shootings

Several shootings occur in Federal Way in 48 hours

By Ani Miller-Wells
Staff Reporter

Police still do not have any suspects so far in any of the cases in which three men were shot and killed in Federal Way last week, despite the increased patrols and intensified investigations.

The three shootings occurred in a 48-hour period beginning at 1:01 a.m. on Monday May 9 through 11:12 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10.

In an effort to calm an alarmed community, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell and Federal Way Police Chief Andy Hwang told a packed press conference that the police and city have stepped up efforts to

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Bruce Honda/FEDERAL WAY MIRROR

People gather to remember the life of Adam Gutierrez, the third victim in the Federal Way shootings.

Highline student among shooting victims

By Ani Miller-Wells
Staff Reporter

An influential member of the Highline student body was gunned down in a shooting on Tuesday, May 10 in Federal Way.

Adam Gutierrez was murdered May 10 at 11:12 p.m. while jogging on South 356th Street with his dog. He was shot multiple times and pronounced dead at the scene. His dog was unharmed.

Gutierrez was an eight-

year veteran of the U.S. Navy who served on the USS Nimitz with top security clearance. He was about to graduate from the University of Washington, with a degree in electrical engineering. He had earlier received a pre-engineering degree at Highline in Winter 2015 and was currently taking classes here as well.

Gutierrez also was a fixture in the Highline Veterans Services Office, helping other vets.

He leaves behind a wife and a community of people who

say they will miss him dearly, including many members of Highline staff who worked closely with him.

"He was soft-spoken, sweet," said Highline math professor Dusty Wilson.

Gutierrez first attended Highline beginning in 2002 and continued through 2004 before joining the Navy. He returned to Highline in 2013.

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PAEC project still \$8 million short



Konner Hancock/THUNDERWORD

Construction for the Performing Arts and Events Center has been underway since Oct. 2015.

By Konner Hancock
Staff Reporter

Federal Way is short \$8 million on the city's Performing Arts and Events Center project, but city officials say they have identified possible funds to cover the gap.

The \$32 million, 41,000-square-foot facility will be a multipurpose venue designed to accommodate all sorts of performances. The events center is located on the northeast corner of South 316th Street and 20th Avenue South in Federal Way.

The project has been under

construction since Oct. 27, 2015.

"All the possible funds needed for the events center have been identified," said City Council member Jeanne Burbidge, deputy mayor for Federal Way.

"We can get New Market tax credits, bonds are an option too, but we are looking to steer clear of any bonds because in the long run we would end up having to pay back those bonds plus interest," she said.

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Highline elects new student leaders

By Michael Muench
Staff Reporter

James Jackson and Gabbi Fuller were recently elected president and vice president for the Highline student body.

These Highline student elects will take office in Fall Quarter.

At the same time as the election last week students overwhelmingly decided to approve amendments to the constitution.

The decision to amend to the constitution passed overwhelmingly with 512 votes for the affirmative and 52 for the negative.

The caucus system has been eliminated from the constitution. It has fallen into disuse over several years.

Gender specific pronouns have also been edited in order to be more inclusive.

Jackson won the election with 267 out of 647 votes. Anna Cook trailed behind in second with 217 votes and Julia Duong was third with 146 votes.

Fuller won with 292 votes out of the 647 cast and her opponent, Everlyne Maina, lost out with 287 votes.

The race between the two vice presidential candidates was one of the closest in 15 years of service, said Associate Dean for Student Dr. Jonathan Brown.

"I think my role as president here is to be a student voice," Jackson said.

Jackson plans to represent several programs on campus.

One of James Jackson's main concerns is with supporting inmates who are attending college after their release from incarceration.

"I am personally involved in

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Local representatives work to increase community involvement



Des Moines sees increase in shootings

By Ani Miller-Wells
Staff Reporter

A man was shot at around 1:15 a.m. on May, 16 just a few blocks away from Highline in the 24400 block of 25th Avenue South in Des Moines.

The man was supposed to be meeting a woman he had set up a date online with, but when the victim arrived, a man jumped out from inside bushes, demanded the victim give him everything he had, and shot him in the upper abdomen and chest.

The woman who the victim had set the date up with reportedly fled with the suspect after the shooting.

The male suspect is a black male in his late teens, around 5 feet 8 inches tall and was wearing all black clothing.

The female accompanying the suspect was only described as blonde and in her early 20s.

The victim was transported to Harborview Medical Center to undergo surgery and is expected to survive his injuries.

New suspect arrested in killing

Three teens allegedly shot 41-year-old Carl Phelps Jr. in the parking lot of an apartment complex at 6:30 p.m. in Des Moines. The victim was shot in the torso, apparently with a firearm that had been reportedly stolen during a home burglary, according to Des Moines Police.

Two teens, 14 and 15-years old respectively, were arrested on May 9 and a third suspect, 13-years-old, was arrested by Des Moines Police on May 16 in connection with the murder.

The third suspect was arrested on charges of burglary in the first degree, possession of a stolen vehicle and theft of a firearm.

Drinking man asked to leave

A man was found with an open alcohol container in the Library at a second floor computer at 11:46 a.m. on May 13. He was advised to leave, and told that if he continued to trespass, Des Moines Police would be called.

The man left without further incident.

All you need is love (and college credit)

By Olivia Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Fall in love with learning about love this fall.

For the second time ever, Highline will be offering Love 101, a one-credit psychology class taught by Dr. Bob Baugher, a psychology professor at Highline.

The class will take place three consecutive Saturdays in October and will cover various aspects about the topic of love, such as the history, biological processes, and reflection on personal experiences.

"I've always wanted to offer it here at Highline," said Dr. Baugher, who has taught full-time at Highline for 28 years. "I think the idealistic goal is for people to come out of the class asking themselves how can they be more loving individuals."

Love 101 is the first of its kind, said Dr. Baugher. He taught the class to senior citizens about 30 years ago and it was a major hit.

Dr. Baugher also found inspiration for the class from Dr. Felice Leonardo "Leo" Busca-

glia, also known as "Dr. Love," a professor who started a class in the 1960s about love after learning one of his students had committed suicide. In his lifetime, Dr. Buscaglia went on to publish several books, one titled *Love*, and gave many motivational speeches about his teachings and messages of love.

In addition, Dr. Baugher said Highline itself sparked his interest in the Love class.

"The president of Highline was talking to the staff and faculty about what a great place our college is, for the students and to work here," Dr. Baugher said.

"People were talking about how they feel Highline is a wonderful place to be and students have said 'I don't want to leave'. I don't know how many other students say that about the colleges they're at."

This inspiration turned feelings into actions as Dr. Baugher began to put the Love class into motion.

"I proposed the class to the Psychology Department and professors from the department offered feedback," he said. "I

was very grateful for their feedback. They would say 'What do you mean by this?' or 'Have you thought about this?' and got me thinking about the structure of the class."

His family also helped develop the class outline and activities, he said, such as having students write a love letter to themselves. Dr. Baugher then saves the letter and will send it back to the student at a date in the future.

While the class does focus on love in general, it is also a study of personal love exploration, Dr. Baugher said.

Dr. Baugher said the Love class also helps him grow and become a more loving person by hearing what of some students say in the class or by reflecting on his own actions.

"I realized it was sort of about both [general information and relationships] and that it was a lot of looking at oneself," he said.

Over the three weekends in October, students will listen to lecture, keep a response journal, watch videos, take part in group work, and also interact

with other students one on one.

Dr. Baugher also teaches classes about death and life, understanding AIDS, psychology of human relations, and a suicide intervention class.

"Since I teach death classes, I realized I would not have liked to die without teaching this Love class," he said.

The very first Love class is currently going on this Spring Quarter. These students will be able to say they were a part of the very first love class ever taught at Highline, Dr. Baugher said.

He said there would be very little changing between the first Spring Quarter class and the second Fall Quarter class.

"We all have work to do," Dr. Baugher said. "That's important for students to understand – this is a lifetime thing. You get to the end of your life and you still haven't done it all."

Love 101 is a three Saturday class that will take place on Oct. 15, 22, and 29 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Students currently are able to register for the class Love 101 class (1169) for Fall Quarter 2016.



Loss felt for former student

A former Highline student was killed in a climbing accident over the weekend.

Zulfiya Dokukina graduated from Highline's Personal Fitness Trainer program last year and has helped lead the on-campus boot camps.

Dokukina was leading a rock-climbing group in the Icicle River drainage area when she fell 80 feet.

Mountain rescue was training near the scene but could not save her from her injuries.

Pay your tuition or get dropped

Students behind in their tuition payments run the risk of getting dropped from the roster.

The next Spring Quarter non-payment drop is scheduled for May 24.

Register for summer and fall

It is once again time to register for classes.

Registration Began on May 10 for both Summer and Fall Quarters.

You can find your registration time by visiting: <https://sec.highline.edu/wts/student/waci004.php> between 4 a.m.

and 9:30 p.m.

Former student registration begins on May 25, and new student registration begins on May 30.

Scholarship to waive Fall tuition

Applications are being accepted for the Highline College Achievement Scholarship.

The Achievement Scholarship will waive tuition for 15 credits for Fall Quarter.

Applicants must attend a minimum of 12 credits, and have a minimum 3.0 high school or college GPA.

Previous recipients of the scholarship may apply, but no student may receive more than two scholarships. Running Start, non-resident, and international students are not eligible.

Students who receive other need-based financial aid will not benefit from this scholarship.

The application deadline for Fall Quarter is August 4. Applications can be picked up and returned to the Office of Instruction in Building 9.

Killer buildings get brought to light

Learn about the dangers of unreinforced masonry buildings at this weeks Science Seminar.

Geology Professor Dr. Eric Baer will talk about these buildings that are responsible for a large amount of the deaths that happen during

earthquakes.

Find out why these buildings are so dangerous and how other cities and states have dealt with them.

Dr. Baer will lead a short presentation, then attendees to an unreinforced masonry building on campus.

Finally the group will visit brand new Building 24B to show how buildings can be made resistant to seismic shaking.

The science seminar is on Friday, May 20 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in building 3, room 102.

Iguana's cause of death unknown

The biology department has lost it's beloved iguana. Mal-

achite passed away yesterday morning.

The cause of death is unknown, and an autopsy will be performed.

**Got news?
Got ads?**

Send news tips, ad requests to thunderword@highline.edu

We want you to help others!

- Looking for part-time work on campus?
- Interested in helping other students?

ACHIEVE is hiring for Peer Navigators and Educational Coaches for the 2016-17 academic year.

Please visit our office in Building 99, Suite 180 to get an application

achieve
learning based on you

Biology professor goes hands-on

Chris Gan loves teaching at Highline and being outdoors in her free time

By Cierra West
Staff Reporter

Highline Professor Chris Gan has been an outdoors junky since birth and she is determined to get Highline students hooked on Mother Nature as well.

Gan teaches anatomy, physiology, microbiology, and general biology at Highline.

"I have always been interested in our natural world," she said. "As long as I can remember."

Gan said she grew up camping a lot with her family, which helped her appreciation for the outdoors grow.

At the age of 7 she said she would get up before the rest of her family and go on the bird walks that Yosemite National Park would host, by herself.

"I spend every waking moment that I'm not working or sleeping outdoors," Gan said.

In the winter she goes snowshoeing, backcountry skiing, cross-country skiing and more, she said.

In the summer and spring she enjoys hiking, backpacking, rock climbing, mountain biking, sailing, climbing, mountaineering and more, Gan said.

"Life is short. You have to make the most of every day," she said.

Gan has been teaching and volunteering for the nonprofit organization, the Mountaineers, since 2009.

"I learned many of my outdoor skills from them and now help volunteer teach navigation, sea kayaking, wilderness first aid, and climbing with them when I can," Gan said. "Classes are very inex-



Highline professor Chris Gan prepares to go rock climbing on a sunny day. Besides rock climbing she enjoys snowshoeing, hiking and sailing.

pensive and it's an amazing community of people."

It's rewarding to be able to give back to the volunteer-based nonprofit organization that taught her so many outdoor skills, she said. She is also the adviser for the Snowboarding Club at Highline.

"We are going to go snowboarding at least four times next year," she said. "People should keep an eye out during Fall Quarter."

She said that she loves that she gets to meet students in the club who she may

have never met in one of her classes.

"One of my favorite things to do is working with students," Gan said. "I've often wished we had not only a ski/snowboard club, but an outdoor recreation club that meets year round doing hiking, camping, climbing, kayaking, you name it. I'd love to be the adviser if students ever want to organize it," she said.

Gan said she got into her field because ever since she was a kid, she was always asking "Why? Why? Why?"

She aspired to be a veterinarian when

she was younger and volunteered for a veterinary clinic while in high school. Then she worked as a vet tech while in college before realizing she liked research more.

"I got really into micro, molecular and cell biology," Gan said. "I really liked it a lot."

She worked for the U.S. Forest Service her junior and senior years in college doing data analysis.

"That's when I met a visiting scholar who worked on salmon genetics. She was hiring," Gan said.

After her senior year she got the job and worked at University of California-Berkeley on genetics research.

Eventually she decided to use her knowledge to teach.

"I am passionate about teaching," Gan said.

"When students want to learn, it's like the best feeling in the world," she said.

She said she loves going to class and getting to know her students as people, not numbers, she said.

"I have a lot of students who became friends after [their] graduation," Gan said.

Students come from different walks of life, and getting to know her students gives her an amazing opportunity to grow, she said.

"I'm always learning. Every day," Gan said.

Teaching such difficult subjects cannot be easy, but Gan tries to make the best of it.

"It is difficult because as an instructor we are expected to cover a lot of detail in a little amount of time," Gan said. "I try to have fun with it because it is hard."

She uses analogies to explain why things are important when preparing students for their medical careers.

If you're looking to take her class, you're going to need to make a time commitment. You will also need good study skills and time-management skills, she said.

"Use your resources," she said. "Contact me anytime, with any questions."

"It's not just about the A. It's about really, truly understanding the material," Gan said.

Pilot program teaches self-sufficiency to students in need

By Taylor Johnson
Staff Reporter

Local residents and students living in King County and receiving food assistance have a chance to learn as a part of a new program at Highline called Resources to Initiate Successful Employment. The pilot program meant to walk people, not just students, from the current Basic Food Employment and Training program to a life of eventual self-sufficiency.

A free six-week Strategies for Success course to develop job and school readiness is a large part of the pilot program, offering potential paid internships with on-the-job training and other work-based learning op-

portunities.

Highline expects to provide RISE services to 180 participants over the three-year period.

RISE services will be federally funded for the three-year pilot duration.

Started with the intent of helping those on the streets or those with significant obstacles in life such as language barriers, child support, homelessness, veterans and those with disabilities, \$150,252 has been given to Highline to enable the first year of the pilot program.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service and distributed through Washington's Department of Social and Health

Services, \$22 million has been allocated for the three-year pilot program statewide.

"We believe that helping people achieve stability, and then gain skills, will give them more opportunities and confidence to be competitive for living-wage jobs," said Marty Sanders, who came to Highline in December, with five years prior experience in student advising and case management.

Along with Highline, North Seattle College and eight organizations in King County are participating in the RISE pilot program. The Career Path Services, FareStart, Multi-Service Center, Neighborhood House, Puget Sound Training Center, Seattle Goodwill, TRAC Asso-



Marty Sanders

ciates and YWCA of Renton and Seattle are all working together to help employ and give jobs to

those who are struggling.

"Our first goal is helping people achieve stability in their lives. Some will need help finding an affordable place to live while others may need help sorting out financial issues," said Sanders, who is a case manager for RISE at Highline. Sanders also said, "We help them locate resources for stability, then we move to training and/or work-based learning opportunities."

Designed to help those in and outside of the college atmosphere, RISE offers personalized case management and coaching during training and employment.

To find out if you are eligible, visit the Workforce Education Services office in Building 1.

Congrats to 2016 election winners

Congratulations to the President-elect James Jackson and Vice President-elect Gabbi Fuller for their wins in the 2016 Associated Students of Highline College elections.

They will be continuing the work of outgoing President Pa Ousman Jobe and Vice President Richelle Enriquez, representing the student voice on college committees, organizing student-centered activities and clubs, and the difficult task of connecting with the students at Highline.

The current administration has done an admirable job in these tasks, with student interests represented to college administration, and a diverse group of student clubs that students are free to join.

The Student Government-organized candidate forum was a great success, and allowed students to get a more in-depth understanding of the 2016 candidates.

But while forming a connection between students and Student Government seems to be a goal of all members and candidates for Student Government, it is much harder in practice.

Highline is a commuter school where most students simply go to class, then go straight home without lingering on campus or getting involved with any activities.

It is difficult to build connections with students who have very little connection to the campus itself, and are unlikely to attend any extra-curricular events.

Thus, while the elected members of Student Government may try to connect with students, students may not want to take the time to connect with their Student Government.

There are also areas where President-elect Jackson and Vice President-elect Fuller can improve upon.

While outreach with the student body is a difficult task, Student Government has not made much of an effort to publicize its activities, meetings, or even its elections, making it difficult for anyone other than insiders to know about these events.

The 2016 Student Government elections were a perfect example of this, with the existence of the election not being known until Thursday, April 28, when the filing deadline was Tuesday, May 3. This made filing next to impossible for students outside of Student Government organizations, as they had only three school days of notice to get transcripts, letters of recommendation from Highline staff or faculty, and fill out all the necessary forms in order to file.

However, one of the most important, and easiest improvements the incoming administration can make is following its own Constitution.

When Student Government acts to unconstitutionally pass changes to its Constitution, it brings the legitimacy of the document into question, and sets a poor example for students.

While the changes proposed to the Constitution were good, removing parts of the Constitution that addressed the no-longer-implemented Caucus system, and removing gendered language in the document, the lack of proper notice of the revisions that were on the ballot was unconstitutional.

Student Government officials claimed through a very tenuous interpretation of their Constitution that they have the right to ignore portions of their Constitution as long as they voted to ignore or reinterpret them.

However, this belief stands in contrast to how a Constitution should work, and brings into question why Student Government has a Constitution at all.

What the new president and vice president should do is hold a legitimate, constitutional vote on the changes to the constitution brought by the 2015-2016 Student Government administration.

President-elect Jackson and Vice President-elect Gabbi Fuller have difficult jobs ahead of them, but they have the potential to bring about great positive change on campus.

Vote so your voice can be heard

Guest Commentary

You should vote.
You should vote because you care. Just because your one vote is a drop in the bucket, doesn't mean it doesn't count, for it is the accumulation of votes that actually becomes something.

You should vote because those in Congress know you don't, and they make decisions based on their voting constituents needs. According to a recent study done by the Pew Research Center, the largest percentage (34 percent) of non-voters are younger than age 30 and that most (70 percent) are under the age of 50. And of those younger than 30 that could vote, only 10 percent actually make it to the polls to make their voices heard. Only 10 percent of Americans under the age of 30 are voting on matters that concern our country.

Why are so many of us shy-ing away from democracy?

Could it be that we just don't know about the issues enough to care? It can't be that; we live in an age where information is at our fingertips. These issues can be looked up on the Internet and understood by anybody. People are more informed today than any other time in history. And if the Internet isn't enough, Washington actually mails out pamphlets along with mail-in ballots that explain what you are voting on.

Or is it that we just don't think that it will make any difference?

It is true that one vote makes little difference, however, as we mentioned before, it's the accumulation of drops that fills the bucket. Without them all we have is an empty bucket. We can't all afford to just not vote. Our system only works with our input, and without it we are letting others make important decisions on our behalf.

This can fundamentally be detrimental to our way of living. Take college for example. That Pew Research Center study shows that most people under the age of 30 do not vote. Most college-aged people don't vote, and legislators know this. So when budget cuts eventually come up, they are more likely to cut funding to higher education since it won't affect their voter base much when election season comes up.

We live in a democratic state, but what does that mean? It



The Three Js

means that we have a say in how the state works.

Voting is unequivocally the most American thing you can do. If you consider yourself a proud, responsible citizen of America, you should vote. Without your vote, you are allowing others to make decisions for you, and while they might have good intentions, whatever they decide might actually cause you undue hardship.

Some might not vote because they feel that the system is rigged; that somehow there are those in power who serve themselves through their own whims.

Rigging the system can take many forms, whether it be attempting to suppress the people's voice (even though our system has sufficient checks to ensure that voter suppression doesn't happen) or perhaps manipulating the media to downplay a certain presidential candidate, is underhanded.

By not voting, you really are allowing the system to work against you; it will fail to serve you.

By far the largest demographic of people who actively pay attention to politics are those between the ages of 50 and 65. Do they accurately represent our interests? Do they know better than we do about the struggles of college students? They don't, but you are effectively saying they do if you don't exercise your right to vote.

Most people in that age bracket don't have to deal with working and going to school. They are farther removed from the struggles of young people. They don't understand how hard it is to work-full time for minimum wage to pay for school and have some kind of life while tuition costs reach unprecedented levels.

When they were going to college, tuition was much lower, it was literally easier for one to pull

themselves up by the bootstraps and make something of oneself when they were our age because the system was working for them.

Whether you like it or not, we all have a stake in this country. Living in America affords you a great deal. It provides you the ability to work and make a living for yourself, to educate yourself, to go into business for yourself. The structure around you keeps you safe from forces that would rather see you as powerless and complacent.

We all have a stake in the successes of our country and we do this by voicing our interests by voting. Our interests should include keeping our country going, rather than wishing it to fail because we see it as corrupt and not working for our interests. This does happen but only because we allow it to, by deciding not to participate. This is not how the system fails us, but how we fail the system.

The bottom line is that voting is important. It is so important that Washington has made it easier to do than getting your driver's license. You don't even have to leave you home to register, or to even vote for that matter.

They will mail you a ballot. All you have to do is fill it out, put a stamp on it and put it back in your mailbox.

Next Monday, May 23, we will have a booth set up to help people register to vote. We will be in the Student Union, 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. helping anyone register to vote. All you need to do is show up with valid Washington I.D. and be at least 18 on or before Nov. 8.

We hope to see you there.
Jonathan Larson is a student at Highline and a former reporter for the Thunderword. Jonathan Zohany is a student at Highline majoring in music and politics. John Vandeven is the arts editor of the Thunderword.

the Staff “

He's both a door and a window.

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•**Museum of Glass**
Third Thursday, Free Admission, May 19. Admission is free from 5 – 8 p.m., a free demonstration will be provided. At the Museum of Glass, 1801 Dock Street, Tacoma.

•**Seattle International Film Festival**, May 19 - June 12. Ticket and movie information can be found at www.siff.net.

•**Comedy at the Ave**, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for students and seniors, \$18 for everyone else. At Auburn Avenue Theater, 10 Auburn Ave., Auburn.

•**Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Luau**, May 21 at 12 – 3 p.m. Tickets are free and open to all, get tickets from the Pacific Islander Club on campus, or the AANAPISI office in Building 9, room 215. The event will be in Building 9, room 215.

•**The Ladies Night Out Vol. 7**, May 28 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$32 - \$99. This event features several popular artist, more info can be found at <https://tickets.showarecenter.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=214>. At ShoWare Center, 625 W. James St., Kent.

•**Kent International Festival**, June 4. Celebrating the diverse Kent community, this event is free to the public and family friendly. At ShoWare Center, 625 W. James St., Kent.

•**ChoralSounds Northwest Masterworks III**, June 11 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for General Admission, and free for youth 17 and under. At Glendale Luthran Church, 13455 2nd Ave SW, Burien.

•**Auburn High School Jazz & Show Choir Concert**, Admission is free, May 23. At the Auburn Performing Arts Center, 707 4th Street Northeast.

For this artist, the magic of the flute is hard work

By **Michael Muench**
Staff Reporter

Art and Letters



Michael Muench

If you want to make it as an artist you can, but it takes years of hard, dedicated work.

For 31-year-old flutist Jeffery Barker, hard-earned achievement has been a lifelong process and a labor of love.

Barker plays for the Seattle Symphony, a world-class orchestra that has made nearly 150 recordings and has received two Grammy Awards and two Emmy Awards along with several nominations for both.

Barker, a Seattle native, is the associate principal flutist for the symphony. For the uninitiated, think temporary stand-in for the symphony’s principal flutist, who plays the most difficult material.

To be clear however, as of today there is no principal flutist in the symphony, so Barker is second chair in name only.

The symphony’s performance on stage is polished and precise and clean.

They almost make performing seem easy, like just any old person could show up and the music would just be there waiting for them to pick up an instrument and play it.

Barker started his preparation for this level of excellence at an early age.

“I started playing the flute in fourth grade,” Barker said during an early morning phone interview last Friday.

And it was during these years when the seed of his passion began to take root.

“We were playing these silly little marches in groups of flutists,” Barker said. “So we could join the band, which was mostly older kids, fifth graders.

The flute tunes themselves, he said, were ditzy and simple.

“But when I finally heard the full band, I had recognized the part that I had been working on. The sound of the full band encompassing the flute, a single flute, was a transformative experience,” he said.

He continued to play music with keen interest but without steadfast dedication until his junior year in high school, when he transferred to a boarding school in Michigan.

“I immersed myself in studying [music] very seriously during the last two years of high school,” Barker said.

It was by this time that he had dedicated himself to becoming a professional musician.

“[After high school] I auditioned to six or seven different music schools,” Barker said. “I got into a lot.”

But it was one school that stood out in particular to Barker: the Eastman School of Music, where one professor in particular drew attention: Bonnie Boyd.

“To this day I feel like she has lots of profound things to



Jeffery Barker has been playing the flute since his youth.

say about the flute,” Barker said.

After studying under her and then graduate school, where he achieved his master’s degree, Barker went on to the arduous auditioning process that marks the beginning of every aspiring orchestral musician’s career.

For these young folk, passion is not the only motivator. Money is also a major factor.

“Whatever orchestra there was,” he said. “We were just looking for some work which one could imagine might pay the rent.”

Each of his many auditions were tense, filled with around a hundred prospective musicians. Barker spent the day working through their many steps until only him and a select other few remained.

“I didn’t realize for the first couple of years what it would take to win one of these,” he said. “I had to practice between four to eight hours a day in preparation.”

Even after winning his first audition for the Boise Philharmonic and again for the Seattle Symphony, Barker still can’t believe he won.

Now, Barker spends his days

rehearsing for his weekly performances with the symphony. His practice routine is both rigorous and planned in minutia.

And he even plays three seats down from his fourth grade music teacher.

“I have to show up to the first rehearsal of a song totally prepared,” he said. “You have to have a narrow focus to do well.”

For aspiring professional musicians Barker has this advice to offer: “First of all, recognize the reality of the industry. There are very few well-paying jobs in it today.”

This is not meant as a deterrent. “Do whatever it takes,” he said. “Be a person who passionately loves playing in an orchestra. If you don’t have the passion then it’s pretty hard to justify yourself through it.”

Despite the constant pressure and hard work required for this line of work, Barker wouldn’t have it any other way.

“There’s nothing like it, there’s nothing I would rather do,” he said.

You can find show times and upcoming events for the symphony at: <http://www.seattlesymphony.org/ConcertTickets/calendar>.

No good guys, lots of bodies in ‘Triple 9’

Triple 9 (R) -- Irina Vlasov (Kate Winslet playing a cartoonish Russian-Jewish mob-queen) has some kind of leverage on a surprisingly star-studded crew of tough guys (Anthony Mackie Jr., Norman Reedus, Aaron Paul, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Clifton Collins Jr.) and gives them a job that requires swiping something from Homeland Security.



They plan to distract the city’s police force with a code 999 -- an officer down -- and they pick

Casey Affleck’s good-cop character to take the bullet. Since it’s a heist movie, the heist does not go according to plan and Affleck’s veteran detective uncle (Woody Harrelson) joins the fray as the body count and betrayals pile up.

In many ways, the movie is too dark for its own good. It’s thematically dark, since there

are precious few good guys and the only real good guy is pretty boring. It’s also visually dark in that gore is applied liberally in a few action scenes with mixed results.

The movie also is just plain-old dark, as in more lights are needed so we can see something other than the sweat-shine on the actors’ foreheads.

Guest conductors audition for symphony

By Jesse Brand
Staff Reporter

Jeff Lund will bring not only the Rainier Symphony concert season to a close this weekend, but the audition phase of the symphony's search for a new music director as well.

Lund is the last of five guest conductors during this concert season. Each of the guest conductors is being considered for the position of music director at the Rainier Symphony.

Lund's concert is titled Romanticism Reimagined. The title of the concert was decided after the selection of pieces chosen by the orchestra and the conductor.

The Rainier Symphony Orchestra chose the violin soloist, Sharyn Peterson, and the concerto piece for Peterson to play during this concert. The concerto is the second part of a normal symphony structure.

Lund's orchestration of musical pieces does not follow the normal structure.

"What makes it so unique is it's a series of miniatures," Lund said.



Rainier Symphony

The Rainier Symphony will decide on a conductor, after this season of auditions comes to an end.

Knowing it's the last concert of the season, Lund chose pieces intending to be rewarding and satisfying to the orchestra.

"It's the perfect way to end the concert season," Lund said.

After the soloist's concerto piece is the Pictures at an Exhibition, which is comprised of 15 pieces orchestrated together.

The Pictures at an Exhibition is a 28-minute musical climb building to an amazing climax

and a well-rounded final movement, Lund said.

"This is a very big program," Lund said. "The orchestra really rose to the challenge."

Lund is no stranger to the orchestra. He performed as a percussionist with the Rainier Symphony last year, when a friend of his guest-conducted.

"I was genuinely taken back," Lund said.

Being impressed with the

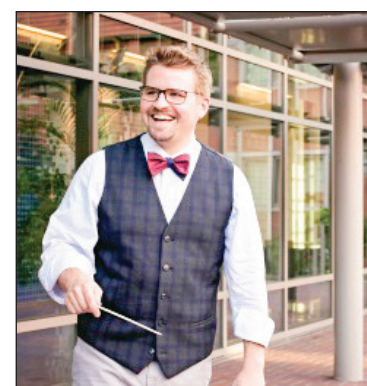
quality of the orchestra is one of the reasons he wants to work with the Rainier Symphony, Lund said.

The competition for music director has been ongoing throughout the concert season. Each of the performances by the guest conductors have in effect been auditions. This made every concert this season unique, said Rainier Symphony President Eric Tishkoff.

Each concert had its different sounds and styles. It's great for all to have a variety, Tishkoff said.

The concerts allow the orchestra to see how the conductors work with soloists and the orchestra. A committee will also look at how conductors will advance the symphony, community and orchestra when deciding who will be the new music director in a few weeks.

Romanticism Reimagined will be performed May 21 at 7:30 p.m. and May 22 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$17 for adult and \$12 for students and seniors. The concert is at the Foster High School Performing Arts Center, 4242 S. 144th St. in Tukwila.



Jeff Lund

Celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage with month full of events

By Jesse Brand
Staff Reporter

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month is underway with celebration and recognition events still to come.

Experience the Wing: AAPI History, Culture and Current Issues event kicks off at the Wing Luke Museum Friday, May 20 from 12:30 to 5 p.m. The museum has personal stories and struggles from local immigrants that provide a unique perspective to current issues. Space is limited, but field trip forms are available at TRIO in Building 6, room 156.

An AAPI Heritage Month Luau will be Saturday, May 21 from noon to 3 p.m. in Building 9, room 215 on the Highline Campus. It is a free event with food and performances by Highline and local high school students. The event is open to everyone.

An AAPI Heritage Month Social Mixer Celebration will be Wednesday, May 25 from noon to 2 p.m. in Building 2. Everyone is invited to celebrate with the AAPI committee and fellow students.

The AAPI Heritage Month and events are a "celebration of our diversity," said American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions Director Ekkarath Sisavatdy.

"The events are dedicated to



Ekkarath Sisavatdy

the students," Sisavatdy said. "It's a moral boost for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community."

The events focus on students celebrating their culture, education, and learning, Sisavatdy said. The students celebrate their identity, bringing the cultural heritage to their American identity.

"It's important to show the roles played in the community," Sisavatdy said.

The AAPI organization has been at Highline since the 2009 academic year.

AAPI students make up about 22 percent of the student population, Sisavatdy said.

"Highline acknowledges each ethnic group," he said. "Regardless of ethnicity, everyone is encouraged to celebrate and participate."

These programs are here to support students and recognize

challenges for AAPI students, Sisavatdy said.

The newly reformed Pacific Islander Club is also contributing to the events for Heritage Month. After being a part of GlobalFest two weeks ago, the Pacific Islander Club is now focusing their efforts on performances for the luau.

The club will be performing four numbers at the luau, club President Rita Ava said.

"We also invited the Pacific Islander clubs from Green River College, Federal Way High School and Todd Beamer High School to attend and perform," Ava said.

"We would like a big community of Highline students to be involved," Ava said. "This is a celebration of culture, traditions, and community."

"We started the club again to make a positive impact and influence the community," she said. "To help get Pacific Islanders involved and to build retention."

"We want to keep the community alive," Ava said.

The Pacific Islander Club reformed just weeks ago and already has 15 members, Ava said. The club meets every Tuesday from 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. in Building 8, room 302.

"The club meeting is open to all, not just Pacific Islander students, and all are welcome," Ava said.

First Highline film contest shoots for home run

By John Van de Ven
Staff Reporter

Attention all Highline students, past and present, put your film making skills to the test in the school's first film contest.

The contest will hand cash prizes to the top four winners. The first prize winner will win top billing in Highline's upcoming Film Festival in October.

The fourth place winner will receive \$75, third place will receive \$100, second place will receive \$125, and first prize will receive \$250.

The films should be seven minutes in length, and include elements of the contest's theme.

"The idea is having students collaborate on the films together," said Professor Susan Rich, who teaches English and Film Studies at Highline.

The contest's theme is the idea of home, and each film must contain a scene with a location or landmark on campus, or include one of the many art pieces around the school.

All genres of film are accepted such as, horror, comedy and drama.



Susan Rich

Rich said she hopes that the contest will bring students together to spark more creative opportunities for them.

There will be a meeting in Building 29, room 105 at 1 p.m. on June 2. The meeting is to inform the public about more of the details of the contest.

Those who attend will get to pick their choice of campus filming locations; those who do not make it to the meeting will still be able to register for the contest, but will have their campus location assigned to them out of the remaining locations.

There is emphasis on attending this meeting as it will allow for the most creative freedom, Rich said.

All entries must be in by midnight on Oct. 3. There will be an Award Presentation and film screening on Oct. 26.

Unified Sports program scoring big

By Samuel Biehn
Staff Reporter

Highline’s Unified Sports program has been scoring points in the Thunderbird community, offering disabled students the ability to get out on the field and live out their dreams as college athletes.

The program, which is supported by the Special Olympics and works with Highline’s Achieve program, offers students a chance to play flag football, soccer and basketball. Along with being an inclusive program, Unified Sports at Highline breeds plenty of competition between players.

“It’s really fun. It gives them [the players] a chance to play college sports,” President of Highline’s Unified Sports program Kim Zielke said. “It’s meant to be competitive. It’s not to downplay their abilities.”

Highline’s Unified soccer team is a good example of the program’s great mixture of fun and team success.

“There are tournaments here and there,” Zielke said. “We won the Seattle U tournament last year. A couple weeks ago we played regionals at StarFire and placed second.”

The soccer team’s strong play throughout this season has given



Highline’s Madison Williams goes after the ball in a game against UW.

Achieve Photo

them the opportunity to play in the state tournament this summer, which takes place June 4-5.

Zielke, who has played soccer since she was 4 years old, has found being around the soccer team to be a rewarding experience.

“We have good chemistry and we mix well together,” Zielke said. “It’s fun to play.”

Additionally, Unified Sports has gotten many students here at Highline involved with making a difference.

“We usually have some people

from the soccer team,” Zielke said. “Many different athletes are partners, students from outside the school, we’re always cheering people on.”

Highline’s Unified Sports program is only in its second year, but it is already having an effect on campus.

“There’s some fans and some other teams that watch when they’re not playing,” Zielke said. “It creates a community within a community. Highline is very community based, the partners are really invested, students love

doing this. It raises awareness, the players are all really nice, and I’ve had a lot of fun doing it.”

Beyond nurturing community, Unified seems to be breeding some strong leaders, players such as Madison Williams, Devon Adelman, and Austin Landon.

“[Williams] has had such dedication, it’s her first year at Highline. She works as hard as she can, she was on the soccer and basketball team,” Zielke said.

“Devon Adelman, who gave a speech on campus here, she’s played and she’s done Special

Olympics stuff before,” Zielke said.

“Austin Landon, last year he was an Achieve student and this year he is a peer navigator, pretty independent, and has a high work ethic,” Zielke said.

Unified soccer player Chloe Knowles, a first year Highline student, has relished her time with the program.

“It’s been a great experience,” Knowles said. “I’ve done soccer in the past, and being a part of the team, it was a lot of fun to hang out with everyone and meet new people. I can’t play for the summer, but I’m hoping to play again for next year.”

Following the year, Zielke said that Adelman could replace her as President of Highline’s Unified program.

Next year, Unified Sports will try as hard as it can to expand its reach and awareness in the Highline community, hoping to spread the word to more students.

“Next year we’re trying to keep it going. It’s been hard to recruit people,” Zielke said. “But I’m going to pass down tips for our next leader and hopefully get some expansion.”

For more information on Highline’s Unified Sports program, and how to get involved, please contact Kim Zielke at kzielke@highline.edu.

Golfers make progress in NWAC Tournament

By Mike Simpson
Staff Reporter

The Highline women’s golf team placed 10th out of 12 with a score of 593.

Two Highline players scored in the 90s during both rounds of the tournament.

Thirty-six holes were played over two days at Veterans Memorial Golf course on May 15 and Walla Walla Country Club on May 16.

The Thunderbirds also finished 10th out of 12 in the NWAC standings for the season.

North Idaho claimed victory at the championship during a sudden death playoff with 475 while Bellevue trailed closely behind with 477.

North Idaho’s Nicole Miller and Bellevue’s Kendra Meeker tied for first out of 48 players with scores of 152.

The Thunderbirds made enormous progress because they were dedicated, worked extra hours outside of official practice time and are easy to get along with, said Highline Head Coach Steve Turcotte after the



Steve Turcotte

placed 30th with a total score of 190 and 46 over par.

She started the first day strong, completing six holes on par over the entire round and scoring nine over par on the back nine.

Martin scored 92 in the first round but could have easily been in the mid-80s, Turcotte said.

Highline’s Jasmine Hansgen placed 45th with a total score of 221.

She said she had fun but had trouble keeping her ball out of the trees at Veterans Memorial Golf Course, she said after the tournament. Hansgen used hybrid clubs instead of drivers for the entirety of the second day to avoid hitting to the right.

“I was still able to out-drive my opponents,” Hansgen said.

She has averaged a total score of 222 over the past five tournaments.

Hansgen will be working on the timing of her swing in the offseason so she can hit consistently straight, she said.

“Next season I want to definitely be shooting somewhere

in the 80s,” Hansgen said.

All players from the current team will be back next year and Turcotte wants to recruit two more by visiting high school golf tournaments and talking to head coaches, he said.

A new golfer, Aimee Chomngarm from Kentridge High School, will be joining next year and has practiced with Thunderbird Assistant Coach Nate Smith, said Smith at a team practice.

By next season, Turcotte said, Highline will be a top five NWAC team with up to three players in the high rankings.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	3	6	1				4	
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	9			2			3	
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate
 ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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- MUSIC:** What group had a hit song with “Love Shack”?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** Where was the eastern terminus of the Santa Fe Trail?
- GEOGRAPHY:** What is the name of the area in the Pacific that means “many islands”?
- MEASUREMENTS:** How long does it take light from the Sun to reach the Earth?
- GAMES:** What is the highest score possible in the game of darts?
- ASTRONOMY:** What two planets in our solar system rotate clockwise?
- MONEY:** What is the currency of Switzerland?
- HISTORY:** Where were the first Strategic Arms Limitations Talks held in 1969?

- INVENTIONS:** What 1947 invention led to the development of small portable radios?
- MOVIES:** What film musical included the tune *They Call the Wind Maria*?

- Answers
1. The B-52s, 1989
 2. Independence, Missouri
 3. Polynesia
 4. 8 minutes, 20 seconds
 5. 180
 6. Venus and Uranus
 7. Swiss Franc
 8. Helsinki, Finland
 9. The transistor
 10. *Paint Your Wagon*

Puzzle answers
on Page 10

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

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6	7	9			

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A once-harmonious relationship appears to be hitting some sour notes. Spend some time together to see why things have gone off-key. What you learn might surprise you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You feel a need to make some changes. Good -- you can do it on a small scale (some new clothes, for example), or go big and redecorate your home and/or office.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Control your tendency toward early boredom. A situation in your life might be taking a long time to develop, but patience pays off. Stay with it.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might feel that you're on an emotional roller coaster this week. Don't fret; just ride it out and let things settle down. A Pisces shows understanding.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Do something different

for once -- compromise. A stubborn stand on an important issue proves counterproductive. You need to be open to new ideas.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A friend offers advice that you perceive as an act of betrayal. But before you turn against the messenger, pay attention to the message.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A year of riding an emotional pogo stick finally settles down. Use this calmer period to restore frayed relationships and to pursue new opportunities.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your words can sting, so be careful how you respond to a friend's actions. A calm approach could produce some surprising facts.

SAGITTARIUS (No-

vember 22 to December 21) Be careful about whose secrets you're being asked to keep. They could impose an unfair burden on a straight arrow like you.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) While you prefer taking the tried-and-true course in life, be adventurous this week and accept a challenge that can open new vistas.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Your strong sense of justice helps you deal with a job- or school-related situation. Stay with your principles. A Sagittarius emerges as a supporter.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You need to build a stronger on-the-job support system to convince doubting colleagues that your innovative proposals are workable.

BORN THIS WEEK: You might not say much, but you're capable of extraordinary achievements. You are a loyal friend and a devoted family person.

Students find a second family at Highline

By Olivia Beach
Staff Reporter

Being a first-generation college student can be challenging, however the diversity of the campus and the programs offered have helped current Latino students.

Michelle Machuca, Leslie Velez and Ricardo Piñon-Garcia described their experience being Latino students at Highline as well as being members of Highline's club, L@che, for last week's Honors Colloquy.

L@che's purpose is to offer students a place to have fun, make friends, learn about culture and heritage, as well as gain leadership skills.

"It feels great to be a first generation college student and be a model for your siblings," Velez said.

"I want to admire the privilege I have to be here," Piñon-Garcia said. "It's a blessing, but it's difficult at the same time."

Machuca originally did not want to go to college and said her first quarter here, she did not work to pass her classes. After taking a quarter off, she is back and ready to work.

"Whenever I get a lack of motivation, I think of my siblings. I think of 10 years from now, do I still want [us] to be struggling?" Machuca asked.

Stereotypes have played a part in the college experience



John Van De Ven/THUNDERWORD

Michelle Machuca, left, Leslie Velez and Ricardo Garcia speak on how L@che has become a second family to them.

for these three students.

"People already have this idea of you before you even say anything," said Velez. "We're proving them wrong by being in college."

"As a male, a lot of people see me as in a gang or doing drugs," Piñon-Garcia said. "[But] I am so proud of my heritage and what I represent."

"We just need to see we are all the same. Anyone can get pregnant. Anyone can graduate," Machuca said. "None of us deserve to be categorized."

Machuca, Velez, and Piñon-Garcia all said their parents were supportive of their efforts in college.

However, it is difficult being

a first-generation student because they do not have direct mentors, Piñon-Garcia said. Parents who have not attended college don't understand how hard it is and do not know how to help with things such as financial aid or FAFSA.

"I come to school for me. I've seen my parents struggling and I don't want to be in their same position," Velez said. "[They are] working hard for us so we can get a better education and have a good life."

Other obstacles for these students are home life and how it affects their schooling. The time they are taking for school is less time they can work or help the family, Piñon-Garcia said.

"What's helped me is making college a comfortable place to go," Piñon-Garcia said. "I feel really empowered being a part of L@che."

"It's hard, but you can do it. It's not impossible," Velez said. "What has helped me is having a group of friends that are trying to do the same thing as you."

"L@che is for everyone to come in and be a family," Machuca said.

"It is important to have space," Velez said. "L@che is there for you."

One does not need to be a part of the Latino community to be a part of the L@che club, they said. Anyone is welcome

in the club and they said they would love more members.

For more information on L@che, visit their Facebook, L@che Gathering, or add them on Snapchat, Lache1102.

Honors Colloquy is open to the public and held weekly. It is based on Honors in Action and is a class students can get credit for. Each week a new speaker comes, speaking with the general theme of a contemporary world issues.

The next Honors Colloquy will be May 25 at 12:15 to 1:20 p.m. in Building 10, room 103. Highline alumn and Joseph Burnett, software engineer at Google, will speak on cloud computing.

Professor speaks on refugee camp teaching

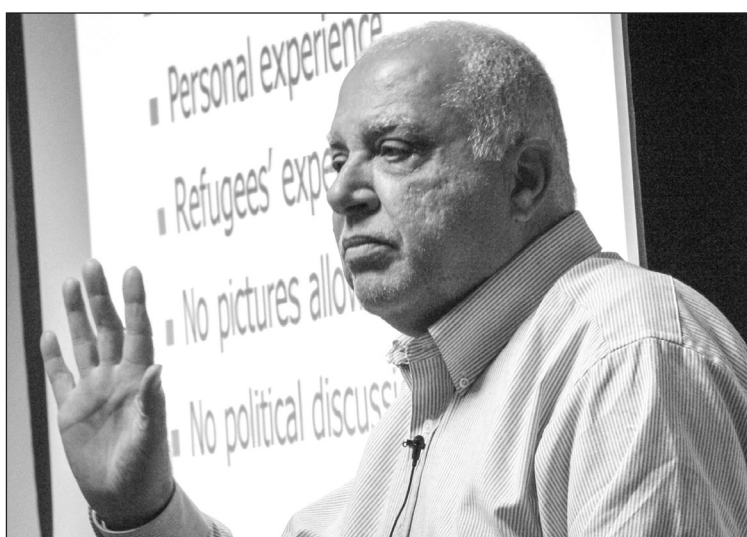
By Ryan McCandless
Staff Reporter

To describe the massive problems currently facing the people living in Syrian refugee camps, a Highline professor at a History Seminar reflected on experiences that he had teaching inside one of these camps.

Each week on Wednesday, a member of the Highline faculty or an occasional guest speaker is invited to do a presentation on a piece of history that is a part of their expertise. Located in Building 3, room 102, these weekly seminars can also make you eligible for a single history credit if you show up for every lecture of the quarter.

The country of Syria has fallen into a five-year civil war. Because of this, millions of Syrian citizens have attempted to flee the country either to wait until the fighting ends or to create a better life in the United States or Europe.

One of the places where refugees are being held is in the Zatari Camp in northern Jordan on the Syrian border. It is in this small camp that 80,000 to 100,000 refugees are currently held.



Mike Simpson/THUNDERWORD

Amal Mahmoud recalls his time spent in the Zatari camp.

Highline professor Amal Mahmoud spent a year teaching and training teachers English at that camp. From that experience he discovered things about life in these types of camps that shocked him.

For starters, the camp is extremely restricted and under massive security. Tanks and other military vehicles surround the area. Cars coming in and out are checked for refugees. Nobody is allowed to take photographs and dis-

cussions that surround politics are absolutely prohibited for teachers coming into the camp.

Wi-fi is also blocked and, according to people Mahmoud talked to inside the camp, officials would only turn it back on when someone prestigious such as Prince Charles or Dr. Ben Carson showed up.

"Before these people go," Mahmoud said, "Things are all polished up so you think that everything's fine. But once

these people leave, everything goes back to normal. That's what I've been told by the students and the teachers both."

The camp is also situated in an area that has summers that are incredibly hot and winters that are incredibly cold. It doesn't help that most of the refugees must endure this climate in compact tents that are supplied to them, ones that have zero air conditioning. Mahmoud said that the sand storms (or haboobs as they're called in Arabic) in June made living there almost unbearable.

"You cannot see in front of you, you cannot breathe, you cannot do anything, you have horrible headaches, and that's if you're inside. In Kuwait, I was inside in my apartment, a very, very well protected apartment, and when we had these I couldn't breathe. And look at these guys living out there during the haboob."

The residents often resort to using dirty rainwater both as a way to clean themselves and as a way to stay hydrated.

But the thing that impacted Mahmoud the most in his time

there was the number of children living there. Fifty-seven percent of the refugees are children and of that, 20 percent of those children are younger than 5. One photograph Mahmoud presented captured three young children forced to shower themselves in a public area using a small length of a hose.

"When I had my break and I sat outside because it was nice out, I was surrounded by at least 15 to 20 kids, jumping all over me, and they are kids just like your kids and just like my kids. You could never imagine that these kids are refugees," Mahmoud said.

"Can you imagine kids at this age doing this? I'm not trying to make you feel sad; I'm trying to get you to understand the reality about the world we're living in. And this is reality because I was there, I saw all this with my own eyes, no one told me stories," he said.

At next Wednesday's seminar, Highline professor Robert Nylander will discuss the Spruce Production Division in World War I.

Forum to urge community action

By Olivia Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Two local women are looking to make a change in South King County.

Shaunie Wheeler, the political official for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 77, and State Rep. Mia Gregerson, D-33rd district, will be hosting a public forum on May 26 to get residents involved in political issues and build a progressive community in South King County.

“It is two women who live in a community who really recognize that it is difficult for our local community members to get access to the different issues,” said Rep. Gregerson, a Highline alum herself. “Part of our strategy is to get people to care enough to vote about these issues that are going to help the community.”

Whether it is statewide issues like Raise Up Washington, a wage increase initiative, or the other branches of local campaigns, people are often left out and don’t have a way to engage in the local movements, said Rep. Gregerson.

“For us, it’s a space that is family friendly and allows people to come and learn about these issues,” she said. “But also to learn how to get involved, whether it is through volunteerism or by paid positions.”

The event is directed toward any community member who lives or works in South King County.

“I want to see an intersection between community and progressive allies,” Wheeler said. “I think as citizens we don’t ful-



State of Washington Photo
State Rep. Mia Gregerson hopes to use a May 26 public forum to encourage progressive political action in South King County.

ly see the value and power we have.”

People in the area often face structural barriers, such as incomplete transportation systems, limited access to education and other necessities that students need in order to be successful in college or any other educational branch, housing, health care, healthy food sources, day care, living wage jobs with benefits, Rep. Gregerson said.

“The health disparity in South King County is terrible. The numbers are third-world-like, compared to other parts,” said Rep. Gregerson.

Another barrier for South King County residents is the illusion of choices. Often there are very limited options masked as the only options available,” said Wheeler.

Wheeler and Rep. Gregerson

say the public forum idea was sparked by recent election results where local representatives, who have similar needs and values as the community, lost.

“The city councils of South King County do not reflect the communities they serve right now,” said Wheeler. “There is no representation of the vibrant communities through the current leadership values.”

“Now is a great opportunity to engage our community and give them other areas where they can affect change,” said Rep. Gregerson. “I think voting has its own barriers.”

Voting systems in particular are an obstacle for many in South King County due to the fact that people in the community speak over 100 different languages in some areas and schools, Rep. Gregerson said.

“We hope for a space for people to start to convene and understand how they relate to these certain issues,” she said. “We wanted a place to break down those barriers and connect like-minded people.”

The forum aims to have an informal setting, more of a relaxed and open feel, said Rep. Gregerson.

“We’re working very hard to break down that barrier of formality down,” she said. “Actually our goal is when you walk through the door to not have 60 different tables like at career fairs. That’s overwhelming.”

“We want people to know it isn’t ‘them’ or ‘they,’” Wheeler said. “It is ‘us.’”

People of South King County can get involved in various ways, from following the South King County Democrats blog, to engaging in anything with the words “labor-friendly” and “progressive politics.”

“It is as much or as little as people want to get invested,” said Rep. Gregerson. “Whether it’s just watching what’s happening in our local community or whether it’s beginning to be active and spending a little bit more time to explore their interests.”

The pair say they hope to create a genuine feel between the public and the speakers at the event.

“We’re really trying hard to be authentic and intentional about bringing people together,” said Rep. Gregerson. “It will help break down the lack of media platforms for these types of issues.”

Often times, there is little to no media coverage for these issues and decisions, but

also tends to be conservatively skewed, Rep. Gregerson said.

“It’s time to create an ownership to our own media platform and raise our voices about these important issues,” she said.

The forum will have a “short, but powerful agenda,” Rep. Gregerson said, a greeting video by Congressman Adam Smith, guest speakers Secretary of State Candidate Tina Podlodowski, State Labor Council Secretary-Treasurer Lynne Dodson, and Community Outreach Specialist for ConcertoHealth Fatima Aho, and question/answer portion.

“At this event, any one of us is there to listen,” Rep. Gregerson said. “People all too often don’t get invited in to listen, speak about, or learn about these issues.”

A progressive community could start with the student community, which is full of people who have so much influence and could make major changes in the local legislative decisions, Rep. Gregerson said.

“We’re working for them,” said Rep. Gregerson. “It’s time for us to use those opportunities to engage and to activate.”

“I’m tired of the handout, I’m really ready to power our community with a louder voice,” said Rep. Gregerson.

This forum is not a one-time deal, it is more of launch, said Wheeler.

“It’s a longevity type of thing,” she said. “Which can only be done by providing a sense of community.”

The South King County forum will be held at IBEW Local 77 19415 International Boulevard in SeaTac, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 26.

More planning leads to less debt in the future

By Whitney Barrera
Staff Reporter

Fifty percent of Americans have made a major financial sacrifice in the last three years, such as taking on credit card debt or taking a second job, just to afford their housing, a Highline professor told last week’s Science Seminar.

Many Americans borrow money when they buy a house, as part of the American Dream that is to own a home, said Dusty Wilson, Highline/ Pure and Applied Division chairman, who spoke on “The Math of Buying a Home.”

Science Seminar is a weekly series of presentations by faculty, and staff that focuses on math, science, technology and medicine.

Wilson’s presentation advised students to improve their

financial legacies.

“The No. 1 thing you can do as a college student is avoid running away from debt. It’s going to be easier for you to save money for your down payment so you can get to a house that you own and you can change your family legacy,” he said.

One hundred years ago, the structure of loans was interesting in that, when people wanted to get a home mortgage, they had to make a down payment of 50 percent or more.

“Back in that time, you borrowed the money at the beginning and five years later you’d have to pay off the entire loan in one payment and that was called the balloon payment. A balloon payment is simply a final payment that is much larger than any earlier payment,” Wilson, said.

In 1933, during the Depres-

sion, there was a negative savings rate, people were spending more than they were earning, and so many factors interfered with buying.

People were losing their jobs, their salaries were cut, so the last thing the banks wanted to do was to loan their precious cash.

Wilson said students should

learn six important financial lessons.

“First, save your down payment.

“Second, cash is a king.

“Third, interest is the penalty for a purchase you can’t afford.

“Fourth, mortgages should at most be 25 percent of your take home income.

“Fifth, debt is bad ... the

borrower is slave to the lender.

“Sixth, debt today hurts you tomorrow.

“As a smart person in our society, as a critical thinker, someone with quantitated legacy it make sense to me that you should take advantage of the tools such as www.wolframalpha.com to go and make good choices,” Wilson said.

Go Figure!
answers

1	×	9	+	7	16
+		÷		×	
2	+	3	+	4	9
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15		18		14	

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

5	3	6	1	7	8	9	4	2
9	2	1	4	5	6	7	8	3
7	8	4	2	3	9	5	6	1
1	9	5	6	2	7	8	3	4
2	6	8	3	9	4	1	7	5
3	4	7	8	1	5	2	9	6
8	5	2	9	6	3	4	1	7
4	1	3	7	8	2	6	5	9
6	7	9	5	4	1	3	2	8

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

M	A	G	I		A	W	E		D	A	M	N
I	V	A	N		G	E	E		O	L	E	O
D	O	W	N	F	A	L	L		W	E	R	E
I	N	K		L	I	D		K	N	E	E	L
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T	A	R	R	Y		B	A	Z	O	O	K	A
A	L	O	E		J	U	G		A	R	I	D
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T	H	R	O	W		B	I	Z		S	P	A
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T	E	S	S		O	W	E		B	E	G	S

PAEC

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The New Market tax credits are a 39 percent federal credit that is earned on a qualified equity investment into a certified community development entity. A bond is a debt investment in which an investor loans money to an entity, usually corporate or governmental, which borrows the funds for a period of time at a variable or fixed interest rate. “We will have about three years to use our inter-fund loan while we secure additional funds

through the New Market tax credits, state, county, and city resources as well as donations and sale of naming rights, etc. In the end, if absolutely necessary, we can bond the remaining balance,” said City Councilmember Mark Koppang. “The inter-fund comes from our general fund and is designed to cover short-term expenditures.” Even with the current funding shortage, the events center has a promising future, said Koppang. The economic benefits of the Performing Arts and Event Center are numerous, he said.

As the anchor to the 21-acre Town Center, the city is already seeing the return with the \$14.2 million sale of 7.74 acres of Center Plaza, which is about a block away from the Performing Arts and Events Center, to the real estate agency and management service company Northwest Capital Corp last year, said Koppang. The tenants include Pacific Island Grill, Subway, Al’s Music, Games and Video, Total Vape and Peking Express, he said. Also continuing with a proposed hotel development by

Cadius Partners, a real estate agency and management Service Company, said Koppang. Development near the events center will generate jobs and revenue for the city, he said. With “every ticket sold patrons will fuel other expenses such as restaurants, transportation, hotel, retail stores and child care,” Koppang said. Hosting regional events will also fuel the economy, he said. “People from out of town generally spend on average one-third more than locals on ancillary items pertaining to their stay in the community,” Koppang said.

The events center is a huge move for the city, said Federal Way Councilmember Martin Moore. “For as long as I can remember, around 1993 or 1994, there hasn’t been a lot going on or developing in Federal Way,” he said. “I want to see this city grow to where the younger generations want to stay here. This city won’t get anywhere without taking risks. We can’t sit back and not do things because we feel like it won’t get accomplished,” said Moore.

Running a red light will cost you money

By David Moran
Staff Reporter

Speeding up near the college could have expensive consequences. The Des Moines City Council has authorized the placement of red light cameras on city streets in November of this year. Red light cameras take pictures of your car if you run a red light. The image captures the license plate number of the car, meaning authorities can and will mail you a ticket for running the light. City officials haven’t finalized a location, but the cameras are expected to be placed on Pacific Highway, north of Kent-Des Moines Road. The intersections being seriously considered are South 216th Street and Pacific Highway, and Kent-Des Moines Road and Pacific Highway.

A third camera may also be placed at Marine View Drive and 7th Place South, right next to the Big Catch Plaza. Des Moines has a two-fold problem; there aren’t enough reliable sources of income for the city and Pacific Highway is somewhat of a public safety concern, said Dave Kaplan, City Council member. “The city is trying to close its budget gap and keep the public safe,” Kaplan said. The cameras are expected to generate half a million dollars in revenue for the city, Kaplan said. The cameras will come from a company called ATS, American Traffic Solutions. Des Moines has worked with ATS before to place speeding cameras near Des Moines Elementary. Revenue generated from citations has proven reliable, and cars have slowed down near the school, according to the ATS

website. ATS shows that fines are paid 70 percent of the time and generate about 20 to 27 percent less accidents, depending upon the placement of cameras. Red light stop cameras are also linked to decreases in side-impact and rear-end crashes, the company says. This new revenue is meant to make up for cuts made to the police department last year, said Melissa Musser, Des Moines city councilwoman. “We need to pay for the training, equipment and days off that officers need,” Musser said. The revenue will pay for multiple part-time officers, comprising several full-time-equivalent officers, according to the ordinance authorizing the red light cameras. Des Moines City Council and ATS studies both show no impact to traffic problems like



ATS Website Photo
New red light cameras will be installed in November of 2016.

congestion and overflow. The installation has yet to be scheduled, but cameras will give warning citations for the month of November. After Dec. 1, fines will be

given. Drivers will be given 14 days notice to pay the fine or contest it. After one year of activity, the ordinance will be evaluated for

Reconstruction following war poses many difficulties

By Ryan McCandless
Staff Reporter

Putting a society back together after a devastating war is no easy task -- Kosovo is a prime example -- a Highline professor and law enforcement consultant told last week’s History Seminar. Each week, a member of the faculty or an occasional guest speaker is invited to do a presentation on a piece of history that is a part of their expertise. Located in Building 3, room 102, these weekly seminars can also make you eligible for a single history credit if you show up for every lecture of the semester. Steve Lettic is the faculty coordinator for the Criminal Justice program at Highline. Besides that, he is also a law enforcement professional and a consultant with the United Nations, Department of Justice and the U.S. State Department. Yugoslavia was in shambles as the Soviet Union began to

collapse. The country had lost its leader, Broz Tito, at the start of the 80s and the tensions kept growing between the different groups living in the country. When Yugoslavia officially collapsed in 1992, it had become a set of smaller countries, one of which was Kosovo. When Kosovo gained its independence in 1990, what followed was close to a decade of ethnic wars between Serbians and Albanians in the country. The war between these two groups reached its peak in 1998 and began to attract attention from other parts of the world. It was after this time that NATO stepped in to bomb parts of the region and end the war. But while this may’ve stopped the war, the region was left in ruins. Just one of the ways Lettic noticed the devastation was in the number of things the Serbs took from the area when they left. “When the Serbs pulled out, they destroyed everything. What

I mean by destroy everything is they were so systematic in how they left the country that they took every light bulb, every doorknob, every nail and left shells of the buildings,” Lettic said. “Everything they could take they took. There was literally no infrastructure. They took all the working parts of the power plants, all of the fixtures and working parts for the water pumps and water filtration systems. I mean, there was literally nothing left.” To fight back, NATO peacekeepers and UN forces moved in to try to bring back stability. They tried to fix the area by developing the media, bringing democracy and creating elections. But another one of the ways they attempted to make Kosovo safe was through police education and development. Some of the goals of this new police programs were to have 5,000 officers on the street, make at least 20 percent of those officers female and have a group of offi-

cers that reflected the diversity within Kosovo. The region was scattered with mines left behind from the war. They also lived in fear of attacks from rockets, snipers and automatic gunfire. The area was in ruins so the driving conditions were extremely difficult. “We had three people sent home with significant injuries during collisions,” Lettic said. “When you think about essential services, there weren’t any.” Teaching conditions were extreme to say the least. There was close to no electricity and there was various forms of theft in the area. The water was undrinkable because the Serbians poisoned it when they left. They only food they could eat was canned. There was also no trash pick up and there was a lot of pollution because of that. As a whole, Lettic was disappointed that the United States didn’t learn from NATO’s situation when they were handling the

Middle East. He believes that the democracy we have in the United States isn’t necessarily the best fit for every other country. “What works here, is not going to work in Kosovo, it’s not going to work in Afghanistan, it’s not going to work in Iraq. We have to be able to take into account the culture and the society that’s already there and to let them decide what it is they think is the rule of law, and encourage them to of course adhere to human rights and all the other things that go along with that,” Lettic said. “But we’re generally not very good at nation building, we showed that in Iraq as well as Afghanistan. The countries that were in the other sectors had a better time than we did. We should have known that 16 years ago.” At next Wednesday’s seminar, Highline professor Robert Nylander will be discussing the Spruce Production Division in World War I.

Victim

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The shooting baffled people who had known Gutierrez.

“He was super straight-laced,” Wilson said.

Wilson said that when other students he’s known have been killed, it usually wasn’t necessarily surprising, but with Gutierrez, his death blindsided everyone he had been close to.

Engineering professor Rich Bankhead especially remembers Gutierrez’ work in service to his fellow vets.

“Adam was a young man



Adam Gutierrez

who gave back more than he received from Highline. In addition to completing his Electrical Engineering pre-requisites, he worked in our Veterans Services Office. When a veteran would show up at my office to learn more about our engineering

program, I would always walk them up to introduce them to Adam because I knew he would take good care of them,” Bankhead said.

“It was not just a job for Adam. He took pride in making our veterans feel at home at Highline,” Bankhead wrote in a memorial email that was sent out to faculty and staff members who had known Gutierrez.

Gutierrez will also be remembered as a great scholar and excellent member of the Highline community.

“[He was] thoughtful and asked good questions,” Wilson said.

“Adam was much more than a student at Highline,” said

Highline physics instructor Igor Glozman. “He was a mentor, a friend, a loving son and husband. I will miss him, as will anyone whose life he touched.”

Engineering professor Judy Mannard wrote: “One of my greatest joys is connecting with students. Adam Gutierrez was one of those joys. His infectious smile, generous nature and sharp mind made him an excellent mentor. He built connections with students, especially veterans, Running Start students and those needing extra encouragement.

“I have lived my life believing that some good will come from every bad situation. It is hard to find the silver lining in

something so senseless and random. So I’ll keep looking,” she said.

A GoFundMe account to help Gutierrez’ wife Marianne meet expenses while she grieves has been established at <https://www.gofundme.com/24ha67gs> and has raised \$8,375.

In addition to her primary job at Tacoma Community College, she is a sign language interpreter with Access Services at Highline.

Funds will be accepted until midnight May 26. At the end of the campaign sponsors have committed to donating 20 percent of the money raised to the Wounded Warrior Project in Gutierrez’ name.

Shootings

continued from page 1

locate those responsible on May 11.

The conference was packed, with the available overflow rooms being completely filled, leaving some citizens unable to view the conference at all. The press conference streamed live on YouTube and was made available after so all citizens could watch.

“The greatest responsibility I have as your mayor is to keep our residents safe,” Mayor Ferrell said.

The first murder took place on the 1300 block of Southwest Campus Drive in the early

morning hours of May 9. The victim was 26-year-old Alex Kelley, who was found with a gunshot wound in the back.

Almost 24 hours later at 12:17 a.m. on May 10, police responded to a call of a man slumped over the wheel of a parked car. The car was parked at the 2200 block of South 333rd Street. That victim was 27-year-old Frank Cohens, Jr.

The third victim was Highline student Adam Gutierrez who was shot multiple times and killed while jogging with his dog on South 356th Street at 11:12 p.m. on May 10.

In addition to \$1,000 rewards offered by Puget Sound Crime Stoppers for information regard-

ing the crimes, private donations have upped the reward another \$16,000 in the case of Gutierrez.

Citizens with information on the homicides can call Crime Stoppers’ anonymous tip line at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). They can also call the Federal Way Police Department’s non-emergency line at 253-835- 2121 or visit the department’s anonymous tip website, www.safecityfw.com.

Chief Hwang advised Federal Way citizens to take the following precautions:

- Avoid going out on foot late at night, especially in a secluded area
- When you’re out in the dark, be with groups

- If you see someone or something suspicious call 911 and report it so officers can check it out

- Keep your doors locked, even when you’re home “We have a lot of work to do,” Chief Hwang said.

Mayor Ferrell and Chief Hwang both emphasized that they would be putting as many officers as possible on the street and are bolstering the detective units investigating the shootings.

“We are prioritizing all of our resources to solving these crimes,” Chief Hwang said.

These shootings, along with one in Des Moines, total four deadly shootings in close radius of Highline within six days.

HELP WANTED

The Thunderword needs a business manager and an advertising manager for Fall Quarter 2016. These are paid on-campus positions, daytime hours, part-time/work study eligible. Send resume and cover letter to Thunderword@highline.edu



Gabbi Fuller

Elections

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post-secondary education for inmates,” Jackson said.

This program is structured much like the Women’s Program or the Veterans Program, he said.

Besides this Jackson plans to support open educational resource textbooks in the classroom, which will lighten their costs.

Fuller said she hopes that her time as vice president will be influential.

“I hope to bring as much positive change as I possibly can to Highline, all the while remembering the projects started by the people before me. What



James Jackson

ideas I can hear about and do something with, I will do,” Fuller said,

Fuller has established several goals to achieve as vice president.

“My goals for my vice presidency are to follow through with the promises I made to myself and to the students; to be thoughtful and [a] persistent advocate of student voice,” she said.



ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING at North Seattle College

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